

CLAIMS

1. A system for creating a unique alias associated with an individual identified in a health care database, comprising:
 - (a) a first data store for storing at least one record, each record including a plurality of identification fields which when taken together uniquely identify an individual, and at least one health care field corresponding to health care data associated with the individual;
 - (b) a second data store; and
 - (c) a processor for performing the steps of:
 - (i) selecting a record of the first data store;
 - (ii) selecting a subset of the plurality of identification fields within the selected record;
 - (iii) concatenating the selected subset of identification fields; and
 - (iv) storing in a record in the second data store the concatenated identification fields as well as the at least one health care field from the selected record of the first data store.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein the health care data stored within the first data store corresponds to pharmaceutical claims data.
3. The system of claim 1, wherein the first data store and the second data store are both located within the same database.
4. The system of claim 1, wherein the first data store and the second data store are both located within different databases.
5. The system of claim 1, wherein the selected subset comprises last name, birthday and gender.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the processor performs the further steps of:
 - (v) based on the concatenated identification fields and the at least one health care field of each record of the second data store, analyzing longitudinal, historical records of individuals using individual-level linking methodologies.
7. A system for creating a unique alias associated with an individual identified in a health care database, the database including a first data store for storing at least one record, each record including a plurality of identification fields which when taken together uniquely identify an individual, and at least one health care field corresponding to health care data associated with the individual, and a second data store, the system comprising:
 - (a) means for selecting a subset of the plurality of identification fields;
 - (b) means for concatenating the selected subset of identification fields; and
 - (c) means for storing in a record in the second data store the concatenated identification fields as well as the at least one health care field from the selected record of the first data store.
8. A method for creating a unique alias associated with an individual identified in a health care database, wherein the health care database stores at least one record, each record including a plurality of identification fields which when taken together uniquely identify an individual, and at least one health care field corresponding to health care data associated with the individual, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) selecting a record within the health care database;
 - (b) selecting a subset of the plurality of identification fields within the selected record;
 - (c) concatenating the selected subset of identification fields; and
 - (d) storing in a record in a second database the concatenated identification fields as well as the at least one health care field from the selected record of the first data store.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of:
 - (e) based on the concatenated identification fields and the at least one health care field of each record of the second database, analyzing longitudinal, historical records of individuals using individual-level linking methodologies.